

PNMC e-BULLETIN

providing bi-monthly communication for Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference



Please share widely. If you receive this e-bulletin via more than one address, let us know which address you prefer. **To submit announcements or manage your subscription, email brenda@pnmc.org.** See schedule at the end for publication dates and submission deadlines.



For more PNMC updates, visit <http://pnmc.org>

e-Bulletin Archives <http://pnmc.org/Resources/eBulletin>

From our Executive Conference Director ~ *Iris deLeón-Hartshorn*

I am hoping that everyone had a meaningful Easter week. One of my favorite Easter memories was when our congregation in Houston released butterflies after the service. The symbol of the butterfly is so powerful and it's one that captures my imagination. I am holding this symbol up as a reminder of PNMC's continuing transformation from the old to the new. Change is constant and my prayer for you this week is that you embrace the change around you as an opportunity to experience God in a new way. May the beginning of Spring be our constant reminder of the miracle of transformation and change, "... making all things new." *Revelation 21:5*

We have extra copies of the **PNMC 2010 Handbook**. If you would like one (or more), please email Barb Buxman (office@pnmc.org). Indicate the number of copies you would like, as well as your mailing address. We are already aware of several updates and misprints. If you have any changes, please email Brenda Zook Friesen (brenda@pnmc.org). The next handbook will be printed in the summer of 2011. In the meantime, every few months we will share a list of updates via the e-Bulletin.

PNMC 16th Annual Meeting: June 24-27, 2010

PNMC Board Member, Pat Senner, has compiled a **RECOMMENDED READING LIST** in preparation for Anchorage 2010. Check out these selections:

For Adults & Adolescents

Raising Ourselves: A Gwich'in Coming of Age Story from the Yukon River by Velma Wallis

The Firecracker Boys: H-bombs, Inupiat Eskimos, and the Roots of the Environmental Movement by Dan O'Neill

For All Ages

Two in the Far North by Margaret E. Murie and Terry Tempest William

Trapline Twins by Julie Collins

Deneki: An Alaskan Moose by William Dale Berry

For all Annual Meeting details, visit:

<http://www.pnmc.org/Meetings/Annual Meetings/Anchorage 2010>

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

listed chronologically

April 13: Deadline for donating items for **Western Mennonite School's Annual Auction** on May 1. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, please contact Charlene Schultz (503/363-2000). For details, visit <http://www.westernmennoniteschool.org/>

April 17, 7-8:30 pm: Come Sing with Us! (Hymns, Gospels & Contemporary Singalongs) in the Portland Mennonite Church sanctuary. Come one, come all, and lend your voice to a night of high octane, hymn-singing revelry. You bring yourself. We'll provide the song books. <http://portlandmennonite.org/>

To all young adults in PNMC: You are invited to participate in **Stewardship Reference Council (SRC) gatherings** in Portland, OR (locations/dates below). SRC is a collaboration between Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Mutual Aid with the purpose of asking stewardship-related questions to better serve young adults regarding their financial needs. Please contact Rachel Ringenberg Miller (Rachel@portlandmennonite.org; 503/234-0559) or Rhoda Miller Blough (rhoda.blough@mmapartners.org; 970/219-0900) with questions or for additional information.

May 5: 7 pm at Shanda Hochstetler & Peter Epp's home

May 6: 10 am at Portland Mennonite Church in the Old Chapel

May 6: 6:30 pm at McMenamin's Kennedy School (5736 NE 33rd Avenue, Portland)

May 8: Idaho Mennonite World Relief Festival

This annual auction of handmade quilts, afghans, wall-hangings, furniture and other handcrafted items is held at The College Church of the Nazarene (504 E. Dewey, Nampa, ID). Proceeds benefit Mennonite Central Committee and CATCH, a local program to help homeless families. An event for the whole family! For details: www.idahomrs.org

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically

ADNet (Anabaptist Disabilities Network)

Does your church have a disabilities advocate? We strongly encourage each congregation to appoint a **Congregational Disabilities Advocate**. Responsibilities include promoting the inclusion of all persons, regardless of abilities or disabilities, into the life of the church. ADNet wants to work with your congregation on how to do that. See our [Disabilities Advocates](http://www.adnetonline.org/DisabilitiesAdvocates) page for more information and to sign up. <http://www.adnetonline.org/>

Eastern Mennonite Seminary (EMS) is offering an online course for anyone who works with church finances. Beryl Jantzi will teach "**Money, Ministry and Me,**" **May 3-June 23, 2010**. For details visit <http://www.emu.edu/seminary/features/money.html>.

Laurelville Mennonite Church Center

May 14-16, Narrative: Rediscovering the Sacred. Collaborate with dramatists, storytellers and others with a passion for the Biblical narrative with Ted & Co. TheaterWorks, the innovative, creative ministry directed by Ted Swartz. You'll develop skills and gain experience working within Scriptural texts to communicate their profound meaning to others through drama and presentation in a playful, joy-filled setting. Discounts available for groups/students. For info: <http://Laurelville.org/narrative.html>; 800/839-1021.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

continued ... listed alphabetically

Mennonite Central Committee

MCC Benefit Concerts, July 16 (Seattle), 17 (Portland) & 18 (Albany), 2010.

Vocalist *Kim Thiessen* of Calgary, Alberta, and guitarist *Darryl Neustaedter Barg* of Winnipeg, Manitoba, will be the featured artists. Kim and Darryl spent 3 weeks recording amazing music in the Maasai community of Najile, Kenya in 2009. *Abe Janzen*, Alberta Provincial Director and well known storyteller, will share vignettes of Africa and the affects of AIDS, war, and poverty on women. Proceeds will go toward an African Women's Income Generation project in Jos Nigeria. This project has a \$45,000 budget. Ticket sales begin in May. For details, call Bob Buxman (503/502-5402).

Mennonite Church USA

Prayer Vigils for Immigration Reform. As immigration reform has been shoved aside by other national concerns, immigrants wonder who still cares. Join us in saying, "Mennonite Church USA does!" Host a prayer vigil **May 1**. For resources and to register your vigil, visit <http://peace.mennolink.org/immigrationprayervigils2010.html>. Co-sponsored by denominational ministers for peace and justice, intercultural relations and Asian ministries; Iglesia Menonita Hispana and MCC U.S. immigration desk.

Mennonite Publishing Network

Vacation Bible School 2010: Meet God on the Mountain! Bible stories of mystery, power, and truth will take kids age 4 - grade 8 on an exciting journey to the mountaintop, and help them experience God's presence in their lives. Through fun worship, lively music and drama, and creative Bible-focused activities they will learn to know, love, worship, respect, and serve our awesome God. Includes stories from both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The schedule for the sessions is flexible, adaptable to your times and needs. These materials are also designed for use in midweek sessions (eight or a ten weeks, depending your group's needs). For details (including ordering options) visit: <http://www.faithandliferesources.org/curriculum/vbs/> or contact Charlotte Derksen, PNMC Resource Advocate (royderksen@mac.com).

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Apr 19 (submissions due by Apr 12)

May 17 (submissions due by May 10)

May 3 (submissions due by April 26)

June 7 (submissions due by May 31)

If you would like to contribute, please send a **brief announcement** in Spanish & English with website links to brenda@pnmc.org. Our goal is to provide a valuable resource, not an In-Box jammer. If space is tight, we may omit announcements that are not as pertinent to PNMC. Announcements will run ONE time only, unless specified otherwise. *We welcome your feedback!*